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PROJECT TEAM: ARCHITECT - ROTHMAN PARTNERS, INC.; GC - WA BERRY AND SONS; EE - BR&A J. & M. Brown completes \$2.47M electrical construction of Harvard Dental Research Bldg.

BOSTON, MA J. & M. Brown Company, Inc. (JMB), the Jamaica Plain, Mass.-based NECA member electrical contractor, has completed the \$2.47 million electrical construction of the new Harvard School of Dental Medicine Research and Education facility at 190 Longwood Ave. The five-story, 80,000 s/f facility, which adjoins the existing Harvard School of Dental Medicine building on the University's Longwood campus, is comprised of dental research labs, classrooms, and offices.

Within its project scope, J. & M. Brown's comprehensive electrical installations at the facility included primary and emergency power systems, the electrical fit-up of the entire facility, and the installation of the fire alarm system and lighting systems.

Mechanical systems for the project are installed within the facility's new main electrical room in the basement and in the penthouse. The project site presented electrical delivery and installation challenges, largely attributable to the small footprint and s/f of the building, which is situated adjacent to several other Harvard facilities.



The tight site required all electrical equipment to be hoisted into the building by crane. JMB brought the power substation and switchgear equipment for the new electrical service into the building in small sections, lowered the components to the basement via hoist, and reassembled it in the facility's main electrical room. The new electrical service for the Harvard Dental Research and Education facility also feeds power to the existing Harvard School of Dental Medicine Building.

In a critical phase of construction, JMB hoisted the emergency power system, a 650KW generator set and all of its components —transfer switches, motor control centers, emergency panels —into the

penthouse and mechanical floor prior to completed construction of the building's roof.

The facility's fire alarm system, installed by J. & M. Brown, is a high-rise, microprocessor-based Simplex system with smoke evacuation and one-way voice evacuation signaling features.

Lighting installations also proved a key challenge met by JMB, as the company made special arrangements with its lighting vendor to have hundreds of lighting fixtures delivered palletized/separated by floors, and then rigged to each of the floors. The transport of lighting equipment and the installation on each floor was closely managed, as delivery to each floor, and installation, could

only be scheduled as other construction on the floor was nearing completion.

In its management of the project, JMB worked closely with vendors to assure that all electrical material was palletized and delivered on open trucks. Coordination between the trades was critical to construction, because of the minimal space available for electrical installations above ceilings. "The mobilization and scheduling of all material and equipment was crucial to the success of the project," J. & M. Brown project manager Ed Jackson said. J. & M. Brown provided its work with minimal interruption to the existing Harvard School of Dental Medicine building and surrounding facilities.

Throughout the project Jackson and foreman Bob Cataldo supervised a field staff of 12 journeymen and apprentice electricians from IBEW Local 103. The electrical contractor worked in tandem with the project team, comprised of the architectural firm, Rothman Partners Incorporated of Boston, general contractor WA Berry and Sons, Inc. of Danvers, and electrical engineer BR&A of Boston.